

HONORING MAINE VETERAN TOM ALLEN FOR HIS SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II AND HIS MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Tom Allen, a proud World War II veteran from Augusta, Maine. At 94 years young, Tom continues to impress those who know him with his commitment to out-ski, and out-kayak the grips of old age and the passing of time.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Tom was a student at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts. He, like so many other brave men from his generation, felt the need to serve his country. In June of 1942, seven months after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Tom willingly left Harvard and joined the United States Marine Corps. Recognizing his academic strengths, the Marines sent Tom to language school where he became proficient in Japanese. Upon the completion of his training, and with the war in full swing, Tom was sent to the Pacific Theatre where he first served in Saipan. In 1945, just months after the atomic bomb destroyed the city, Tom was reassigned to an intelligence position with the Second Marine Division and sent to Nagasaki, Japan. Among his many duties as an interpreter, Tom was tasked with working directly with the Japanese to uncover where they held their war materials in hopes of demilitarizing the Japanese War Machine. A year later Tom was honorably discharged from the Marines and chose to return to Harvard to complete his undergraduate education.

At a relatively young age, Tom had accomplished more than most people do in their lifetime. His resumé of resilience and his sense of determination are some of the many positive qualities Tom has maintained into his later years. Two years ago, at the age of 92, Tom was seen skiing in the mountains of western Maine. Less than a year later, at the age of 93, Tom slipped into a kayak for a paddle around Boothbay Harbor.

Mr. Speaker, I truly admire Tom for his willingness to interrupt his Harvard education to answer our nation's call to serve. Lastly, I would like to thank him for reminding us all that age is simply a state of mind and that nothing is out of one's reach.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on May 22, 2017, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on No. 269 and No. 270.

HEATHER WILLIAMS NAMED PRINCIPAL OF NEW KATY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Heather Williams of Richmond, TX, for being named the principal of Kathleen Joerger Lindsey Elementary School.

Opening in August 2017, Lindsey Elementary School is the newest addition to the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District (ISD), the first Lamar Consolidated ISD school in Katy. This will be Heather's first time opening a new school, she said "it's an honor." This year she celebrates her 20th year in education. She has held several roles, from fifth grade teacher to assistant principal to principal.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Heather for being named the principal of Lindsey Elementary School. We're confident she'll be a great role-model for the children starting school there.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes Monday, May 22, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call votes 269 and 270.

CONGRATULATING THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF INDIANAPOLIS ON ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate the Junior League of Indianapolis on the occasion of its 95th Anniversary. JLI's primary mission is to promote voluntarism, to develop the leadership potential of women, and to improve the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. For an astounding 95 years, JLI has worked diligently to promote these ideals and to enrich the lives of its members and the community in which they reside. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for the contributions to our Hoosier community, and as a formerly active member and current sustaining member, it is my distinct privilege to honor the Junior League of Indianapolis.

Ten Indianapolis women founded the JLI in the fall of 1921 to promote voluntarism throughout the city. In 1922, their first major project put JLI to the test. They successfully opened an Occupational Therapy Clinic for Riley Children's Hospital, which served Indianapolis over two and a half decades until 1948.

Since then, the lasting impact of JLI's community involvement has been felt constantly throughout the city. Committed to preserving Indianapolis' rich history, the League held its headquarters in the historic French Romanesque Schnull-Rauch House from 1979 to 2009, and maintained the historic monument during their residence. Several projects like Kids in the Kitchen, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and the Ronald McDonald House have endured through the years and even through a few decades. The women of the Junior League choose to take on our most pressing and difficult issues, notably in their project regarding Early Prevention of School Failure in Indianapolis Public Schools from 1984 to 1990. Today, education remains a priority, with members volunteering at Stephen Foster School, IPS 67. Through a three-year partnership, the Junior League in their Signature project, "Partners Advancing Student Success", will work on tutoring, stocking the food pantry, and more at IPS 67. JLI also holds annually their service event, "Around the Community—Around the Clock", an event in which members perform 95 hours of continuous community service.

The League has nearly 1000 members today dedicating over 16,000 hours of uncompensated service each year. Through grant making, roughly \$200,000 was invested into Indianapolis last year alone. In education, more than \$500,000 has been invested since 2011. This year's projects are as charitable as ever. Tutors in Action provides program funding and volunteers for one on one or small group tutoring for families in transitional housing. The Kids in the Kitchen program provides nutritional information and healthy cooking techniques for families to combat childhood obesity.

The Junior League of Indianapolis has proven time and time again that it is committed and vital to the wellbeing of our city. It serves as a role model for all charitable organizations like it. The focus on developing the potential of women in our community has served as an invaluable training ground for the next generation of amazingly, talented and generous leaders. JLI states that it seeks to be a catalyst for lasting change in the lives of children and families in our community, and it has exceeded this role for 95 years and counting. These selfless women and the families that support them, deserve our gratitude. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate this wonderful organization on 95 years of exemplary work within our community, and wish the JLI, and all their members, the best on their journey to another 95 remarkable years.

HONORING DR. CHRIS RODRIGUEZ

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Chris Rodriguez, and to commemorate his service to the people our state as Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security. Director Rodriguez is a dedicated public servant who has worked tirelessly in the intelligence field to protect and serve New Jersey and the American people.